United Nations S/2018/1154

Security Council

Distr.: General
27 December 2018
English
Original: Arabic

Identical letters dated 24 December 2018 from the Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, and in response to the allegations contained in the identical letters dated 20 November 2018 from the Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council (S/2018/1036), I should like to bring to your attention the following information:

This Israeli letter, with all its allegations and lies, can be added to the numerous other previous Israeli letters to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council containing false claims about violations committed by the Syrian side. They are nothing more than a fresh attempt to deceive and turn the facts upside down, and thus deny that Israel is responsible for its dangerous policy of aggression, that it practices State terrorism, and that it continues to support armed terrorist groups and to violate Security Council resolution 350 (1974) concerning the separation of forces, as well as Council resolutions and international instruments concerning counter-terrorism. Like its predecessors, this attempt is doomed to failure.

After verifying the documents and meeting and liaising with the command of United Nations forces in the Golan, we wish to provide the following information, which disproves the Israeli claims:

- The United Nations forces in the Golan were not informed of the purported violations and did not enter them in their records. The Government of the Syrian Arab Republic was not informed either, as ought to have occurred under the 1974 Disengagement Agreement.
- Under the 1974 Disengagement Agreement, the occupying Israeli authorities must hand over to the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF) any civilian or soldier who crosses the ceasefire line. In turn, UNDOF should hand that person over to the Syrian authorities through the armistice delegation office. Only one instance of such a handover has been recorded. United Nations reports indicate clearly that there has been cooperation between the occupying Israeli forces and armed terrorist groups, and that the occupying Israeli forces have opened crossings for the armed terrorist groups to cross the ceasefire line.
- The letter of the Permanent Representative of Israel, the occupying Power, states that one tank, one personnel carrier and one excavator were observed in the area of separation. Those claims are also lies. The vehicles in question were outside the area of separation. That fact was documented by the United Nations forces

Please recycle

command. There were no violations of the Agreement on Disengagement involving any such materiel.

- On the other hand, Israeli violations of the Disengagement Agreement have been ongoing since before the start of the terrorist war against the Syrian Arab Republic, as has been documented by the Secretary-General's reports and the records of the United Nations forces command. We mention the following examples:

  (a) Israel is continuing to create obstacles for United Nations inspection teams and is denying them access to several areas in the 10 km buffer zone in the occupied Syrian Golan.

  (b) Israel is continuing to use the Shahar Gate in the technical fence in the Jubbata al-Khashab area, where it facilitates illicit border traffic.

  (c) Israel is continuing to mobilize forces of various kinds near the area of separation in the northern occupied Syrian Golan, and to conduct training exercises, manoeuvres and troop reviews, all of which has been documented by the United Nations forces command.

  (d) Israel is committing numerous violations of the sovereignty of the Syrian Arab Republic, which have been documented by United Nations reports and constitute violations of the Disengagement Agreement.

  (e) Israel is continuing to commit numerous violations in the 10, 20 and 25 km buffer zones by deploying 155 mm artillery pieces and missile carriers. That has been document by the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization.

- The Government of the Syrian Arab Republic calls on the United Nations and, in particular, the Security Council, to take urgent action to place pressure on Israel to implement the relevant Security Council resolutions, in particular resolutions 242 (1967), 338 (1973) and 497 (1981), and compel Israel to withdraw from the entire occupied Syrian Golan to the line of 4 June 1967.

I should be grateful if the present identical letters could be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Bashar **Ja'afari**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative